

Public Parade

Marc On the Mark

Senator Marc Basnight of Manteo is on the right track when he calls for a united effort to promote highway development in the north-eastern counties, which have long been neglected by Raleigh, whatever the administration in charge.

As Senator Basnight pointed out in his recent letter to the Chowan Herald, literally hundreds of millions are being spent by the Department of Transportation each year in its statewide highway program. But, for some reason or other, the northeast has been short-changed, although some improvement has been noted in recent years.

We were disappointed to see newly-elected Gov. Jim Martin commit such a large portion of the state's highway resources to the accelerated completion of a single highway, the freeway from Benson to Wilmington, which will eventually come to be known as I-40. We felt that the southeast should take its turn, as other sections of the state have had to do, in seeing its main traffic arteries developed. We know of no Interstate Highway in the state that has been rushed to completion at the rate proposed for the Wilmington-to-Benson sector. There are still unfinished links in I-40 west of Raleigh, and it has been under construction for 20 years or more. Although I-77 has been finished across the state at its narrow waist, some work remains on I-85, which was perhaps the first interstate to go to contract in the state.

We mention these examples to show how other sections of the state have had to stand in line for their major construction projects while the Benson-to-Wilmington boulevard is rushed to completion even before it gains designation as an Interstate project. We still feel that the state should allocate a reasonable portion of the \$100 million plus it has committed to the southeastern project for upgrading the system in the northeast.

Nor should this section be lulled into a better mood because work at long last is about to get underway on rebuilding the bridge across Albemarle Sound. That project is being funded from an entirely separate reserve, money already earmarked for bridge repair and replacement, and does not come from the highway construction reserve.

Not only does the northeast need better bridges, but it needs better roads leading to them; and the area will have to make up in volume and frequency of its requests for what it lacks in population and industry. And the Chowan Herald stands ready to help do that.

We would suggest that every voting age citizen of the area uphold the united efforts of Senator Basnight and Reps. Vernon James and Charles Evans in trying to get the attention of the Department of Transportation focused on the needs of the northeast.

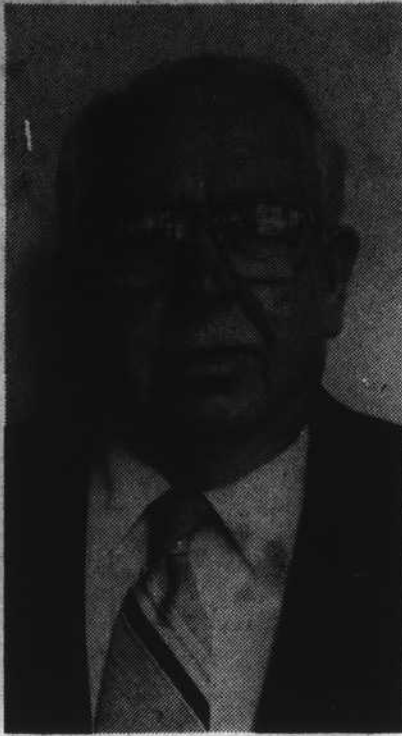
Rep. Walter Jones of the First Congressional District should also be on the alert when Congress again attempts to release the huge federal highway fund to the states. Now reputed to total some \$7 billion, it is still tied up because Congress could not agree on a distribution formula. If the eager beavers again attempt to earmark portions of that fund for special projects in their districts, Rep. Jones should do the same thing for the Albemarle section.

Too Liberal For Us

We have just been invited by the Conservative Political Action Conference to a Salute to the Reagans banquet at the Sheraton Washington Hotel Friday evening, March 1.

Although we consider our record to be that of a fiscal conservative, we still don't know why we have been asked to join Chairman

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E. L. Hollowell

Continuing His Service

MURFREESBORO, NC—E. L. Hollowell of Edenton is continuing his service as a Chowan College trustee, Class of 1988.

One of nine trustees elected during the annual meeting of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Hollowell has served three previous terms on Chowan's Board of Trustees and a total of four years on the Board of Advisors.

He is the retired president and chairman of the Board, Chowan Veneer Co., Inc.

At Chowan, Hollowell has served as chairman of the Board of Trustees and the Accomplishing Our Mission Campaign to construct the \$2.5 million gymnasium-

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Rezoning Discussed

Edenton Town Council, Tuesday, passed a resolution rezoning portions of the Oakum Street Community Development Project and the newly funded East Church Street Community Development Project from a CN Neighborhood Commercial zone to an R-5 Residential zone. The action took place after a lengthy public hearing attended by approximately 60 people.

The rezoned area begins on East Queen Street and follows Oakum Street north to a point between Carteret and Freemason Streets. At the present time, the area includes 22 private residences, 1 cemetery, 8 vacant lots, 1 lodge, and 12 commercial properties.

Town of Edenton Building Inspector Chuck Nance told those attending the hearing that if the neighborhood retained its CN Neighborhood Commercial zoning status, no new private residences would be permitted to be built in the area. He also said the zoning ordinance would prohibit the opening of any new business establishment because lots available in the area are not large enough to meet off-street parking and minimum frontage requirements.

But, he said, by rezoning the area to R-5 Residential, private dwellings could be constructed in the area and the 12 existing businesses would not be effected. "The nature of the request is not to put anybody out of business, but the zoning change would prohibit new businesses in the area," he added.

Many residents and property owners representing the neighborhood spoke at the hearing. Vernon Austin, owner of La Dall

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Symphony To Play Tonight

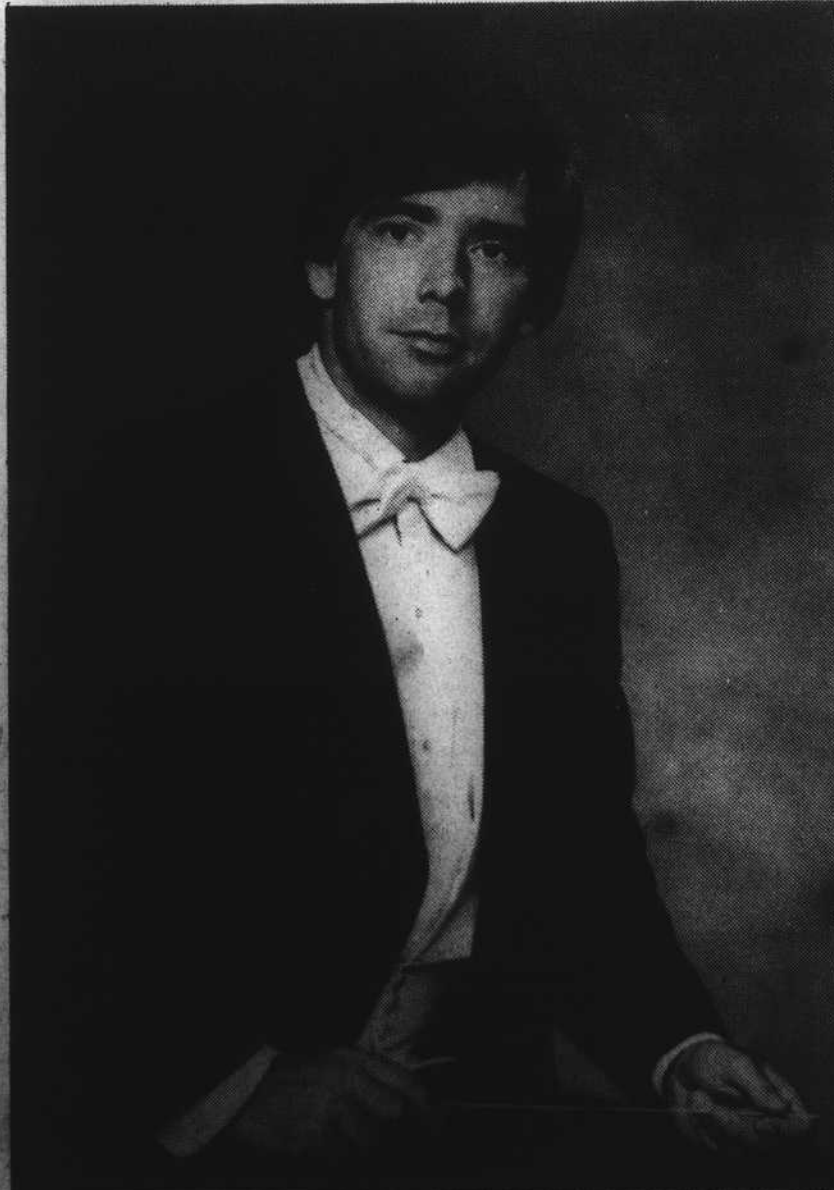
The North Carolina Symphony will make its fourth appearance before an Edenton audience tonight at Ernest A. Swain School at 8 p.m.

Last year the concert was a sellout, with final sales being made at the door. Following the favorable response to their 1984 performance, Symphony Board members expect this year to also be a sellout.

Performances by guitarist Elliot Frank, the Edenton Choral Society and the John A. Holmes High Concert Choir under the direction of Associate Conductor James Ogle, highlight the North Carolina Symphony's Valentine's Day Concert.

Elliot Frank will perform Rodrigo's Concierto de Aranjuez for Guitar and Orchestra on the first half of the program, followed by a performance of Mozart's Regina Coeli as well as "America the Beautiful" and "The Lord is My Shepard" by the Edenton Choral Society and the John A. Holmes Concert Choir during the second half. The Chamber Orchestra will perform Mozart's Overture to The Marriage of Figaro, and Haydn's Symphony No. 101.

Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$4 for senior citizens and students; admission is \$8 and \$5 at the door.



SYMPHONY PERFORMANCE— Associate Conductor James Ogle will lead the N.C. Symphony Chamber Orchestra tonight at 8 p.m. in Swain Auditorium.



NEW POSTMASTER— Howard C. Hodges (left) was sworn in as Edenton's new postmaster by Sectional Center/Postmaster Gold Joyner, Jr. (right) on Wednesday, February 6. Hodges' wife Louise held the Bible during the ceremony which occurred at noon in the Edenton Post Office Building on Broad Street.

Hodges Sworn In As New Postmaster

Howard C. Hodges was sworn in as Edenton's new postmaster on Wednesday, February 6 by Sectional Center/Postmaster Gold Joyner, Jr. A large crowd, including family members, friends, and local dignitaries, attended the noon ceremony in the Edenton Post Office building.

Hodges, 41, a native of Elizabeth City, officially began his duties here on February 2. He is replacing James Bond who retired as postmaster last year. William Crosby, who has been the officer in charge between Bond's retirement and Hodges' appointment, has been appointed postmaster at Washington, N.C.

Before his appointment to the postmaster position in Edenton, Hodges served Superintendent of Postal Operations at the Elizabeth City post office. But his career with the postal service began twenty years ago while he was a sophomore in college.

Hodges served as a distribution clerk at the Elizabeth City post-

office for fourteen years. He was then promoted to Supervisor Mails and Delivery, a position he held for three years and four months.

"Working at the post office is all I ever really wanted to do," said Hodges.

The postmaster's position in Edenton has been a career goal for Hodges who said he "put his wheels in motion" as soon as he learned of Bond's retirement plans. He was chosen for the position from among applicants representing the entire southeastern region of the United States.

Part of the attraction the postmaster's position in Edenton holds for Hodges is the town itself. "I've always wanted to move to

Edenton," he said.

Hodges is so taken with the town he spent his entire lunch hour on Monday driving around and taking in the sights. He plans to move his family here as soon as possible.

His family consists of his wife, Louise M. Hodges, and two children, Clay, 16, and Wendy, 11. Hodges describes himself as an avid golfer and said that he and his wife are interested in all types of sports.

"We're all pleased with this appointment," Hodges said. "We're anxious to become a part of the community."

District Court Session Held

Chowan County District Court was in session February 12, 1985 with the Honorable Grafton G. Beaman, presiding.

Jerry Blount pleaded guilty to charges of assaulting a judicial officer and assaulting a law enforcement officer. Both charges were consolidated for judgement and he was sentenced to 12 months, suspended 2 years on the condition that he reports to Albemarle Mental Health and keeps all appointments.

Rudolph Henry LaPoint was found guilty of disobeying a stop sign and driving without an operator's license. He was fined \$10 and cost of court for disobeying the stop sign. For operating without a license he was fined \$25; it was suspended.

Edward Lewis Meher was found guilty of an inspection violation. He paid cost of court.

Emmett Ray Halfhill was found guilty of making an unsafe movement in a motor vehicle. He was fined \$10 and cost of court; he appealed.

Timothy Mark Glasgow was found guilty of DWI, he was sentenced to 30 days, suspended 2 years on the condition that he pay a \$50 fine and cost of court. He is also to do 24 hours of community service, to surrender his operator's license and attend ADET School; he appealed.

Larry Robert Privott was found guilty of two counts of assaulting a female, he was sentenced to 6 months, suspended 3 years, fined \$300 and cost of court. He is not to harass or threaten Donna Privott for 3 years; he appealed.

Darlene Owen Pope was found guilty of simple assault, she was fined \$25 and cost of court; she appealed.

Helen Cook was found guilty of assault, she was fined \$50 and cost of court.

Samuel Tripp was found not guilty of assaulting a female.

Teresa Jean Robbins pleaded

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Sound Bridge Replacement Is Approved

RALEIGH — The state Board of Transportation on Friday, February 8 approved a \$22.3 million contract to replace the state's longest bridge, the Albemarle Sound Bridge on NC-32 between Washington and Chowan counties.

Under terms of the contract, which was awarded to Cianbro/Williams of Pittsfield, Maine, a two lane "high rise" bridge will replace the existing 48-year old bridge across the sound.

Construction of the bridge will start in April and is set for completion in December 1988.

According to state transportation officials, the wooden pilings which support the bridge have been damaged by exposure to the element of nature over the years. Studies conducted in 1980 determined that rehabilitation of the 3.5-mile structure would not be cost-effective.

Currently, the bridge is posted for a single vehicle weight limit of 20 tons — tractor, semi-trailer combinations cannot exceed 22 tons.

State Transportation Secretary James E. Harrington said that replacement of the bridge was compatible with Governor Jim Martin's commitment that North Carolina will keep its reputation as the "Good Roads" state.

"This is the largest single structure contract ever awarded by the Board of Transportation," Harrington said. "It's completion will reestablish a vital link between the logging operations north of the sound and the pulp and paper mills

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Kinnon Lane

Participates In Conference

Miss Kinnon Lane, a student at John A. Holmes High School will be one of 125 high school students from across Eastern North Carolina to participate in a Rotary Youth Leadership Conference at the Ramada Inn in Ahsokie.

The conference, sponsored by Rotary Districts 771 and 773 and hosted by 100 Rotary Clubs in the two districts, will be March 1-3.

Keynoting the conference will be W.O. McCoy, a Snow Hill native, who is now Vice-Chairman of the Board of BellSouth Corporation in Atlanta.

Also conducting leadership sessions during the weekend will be Judy and Merle Fraser of Dallas, Texas; Dr. Tom Haggai of High Point; Doug Starr of Rocky Mount; Jeanne S. Robertson of Burlington; and Reece Gardner of Kinston.

Entertainment for Friday night will be provided by "Ovation" of Kinston High School. Ed Kilbourne of Chester S.C., will perform Saturday night.

"The purpose of this conference," according to conference chairman Andy Jackson of Ahsokie, "is to recognize and in some small way help develop true leadership potential in our young people."